

HEADQUARTERS 320TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M)
Office of the Group Intelligence Officer
APO 520

Intelligence Narrative No. 103, Day Operation, 23 Nov. 1943.

Flight Commander: Lt. Col. Zaiser.

1. 320th Bombardment Group (M).

2. At 0925, thirty-eight (38) B-26's of the 320th Bombardment Group (M) took off to bomb Salon de Provence A/D, France. They were accompanied by the 319th and the 17th Bombardment Groups and were escorted by P-38's of the 1st Fighter Group. 3 B-26's returned early; 1 because 1 chute opened in a/c; 1 because left wheel would not retract; 1 because of smoke and oil in aft bombay. 1 B-26 crashed on take-off and was destroyed. The crew is safe.

No bombs were dropped because of 10/10 cloud cover over the target area. Thirty-four (34) B-26's returned safely to this base at 1422 hours.

3. Results: None.

4. Observations: a. General 1. At 1305 a B-26 from another group (either bearing large white #27 or #37) left the formation on single-engine and headed toward Alghero A/D, Sardinia.

2. At 1210 one B-26 of another group was seen smoking and left the formation over the target area. It was not observed whether it turned back or re-joined its formation.

3. A train of 20 cars 5 miles east of La Ciotat, headed west; 2 strings of cars on tracks leading to docks at Ciotat; were seen at 1200 from 8,000'.

4. Much rolling stock was seen in M/Y and at the docks at Marseilles at 1200 from 8,000'.

5. Each of 4 tracks in M/Y at Aubagne were observed to be full of freight cars at 1200 from 8,000'.

c. One crew reported a large explosion in the water at 42° 50' N, 05° 30' E at 1225 from 8,000'.

b. Enemy Air: 1. 5/7 B's A/C, too far away for identification as to type, were seen, first against the mountains as land was approached, and later engaged in dog-fights with P-38's below and to the right of the formation over Toulon at 1200 from 8,000'.

2. At least one and possibly 2 A/A were seen to crash in water at Toulon Harbor at 1200 from 8,000', probably shot down by P-38's.

3. 2 I/E A/C with single tails, too far away for more accurate identification, were seen flying north below the formation just south of Toulon at 1220 from 8,000'.

c. Enemy Air Tactics: The B/A seen against the mountains as land was approached were difficult to see and appeared to be using mountains for protection against observation.

d. Enemy Shipping: 1. One large vessel in dry-dock at La Ciotat was observed at 1200 from 8,000'.

2. 2/3 small boats leaving La Ciotat at medium speed; 50/60 small vessels in La Ciotat harbor; were observed at 1200 from 8,000'.

3. 4 large vessels in Toulon Harbor were seen at 1200 from 8,000'.

4. 30/35 small boats at Brandoil were observed at 1200 from 8,000'.

d. Enemy Shipping (Cont'd): 5. 5/6 fishing vessels off the coast at Toulon were sighted at 1159 from 8,000'.

e. Flak: Moderate inaccurate heavy flak was encountered from Toulon and Marseilles. One large ship 3 miles west of Forquerolles Island fired light inaccurate flak and a large vessel just out of Toulon Harbor fired heavy inaccurate flak at the formation.

f. Our Losses: One B-26 crashed on take-off due to a tire failure. The a/c was destroyed; the crew is safe.

5. Weather: Enroute: Roll of cumulous along Sardinian coast, tops 8,000'; CAVU over water with 2 lines of strato-cumulous bases 1,000', tops 2,500'.

Target: 2 layers thin stratus at 12,000' and 8,000' begining at coast and extending inland; the 2 layers converged and met 10-15 miles inland in places. Target obscured.

Return: as enroute.

Comments: None.

WILLIAM COOK
Captain, Air Corps
Sp Intelligence O.

<u>FELT</u> 90	<u>TOWNS</u> 94	<u>FERRY</u> 91
<u>PETERSON</u> 76	<u>URNER</u> 83	<u>SUND</u> 80
<u>GREEN</u> 95	<u>GOODSON</u> 78	<u>WEBB</u> 85
<u>WILLS</u> 13	<u>OGLIBTTI</u> 11	<u>ST ARNO</u> 4
<u>HUNSBARGER</u> 5	<u>HOY</u> 14	<u>HOBBS</u> 10
<u>OSTER</u> 9	<u>VALLS</u> 7	<u>CROTTY</u> 6
<u>DAVIS</u> 25	<u>SPREngle</u> 34	<u>JAMES</u> 40
<u>BOUCHER</u> 47	<u>LADD</u> 43	<u>SMITH</u> 28
<u>BAUCOM</u> 33	<u>BATTO</u> 31	<u>DE FAN</u> 27
<u>COLLINS</u> 58	<u>CALLER</u> 54	<u>GILBERT</u> 56
<u>SAYLOR</u> 67	<u>FEAGEN</u> 57	<u>CALHOUN</u> 61
<u>BAKER</u> 59	<u>BUTLER</u> 62	<u>BANKER</u> 54

S P A R E S
WISLER CURRIE YOUNG BACKEN
 84 1 26 60 (U)
 RADIO: 320th - LACSONG 319th - LAYFLOWER
 1st - SAXHORN

COLORS OF THE DAY

TIME	FLARE	CHALLENGE	REPLY	COLOR
0100-0700	RA	L	A	GREEN
0700-1300	RY	I	D	WHITE
1300-1900	GG	Y	B	GREEN
1900-0100	AG	F	C	RED

THE FOLLOWING CREWS PARTICIPATED IN THE RAID ON SOLOMON AIRFIELD FRANCE, NOVEMBER 28, 1943.

NAMES OF THE CREWS.	SQUADRON	PLANE NO.
Towns, Pilot, Captain, Towns, Co. Pilot, 2nd Lt. Burton, Bombardier, 1st Lt. Ridge, Navigator, 1st Lt. Dicke, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. DeSantis, Radio Gunner T/sgt. Szmazzyk, Aerial gunner, Sgt. Zaiser, Flight Commander, Col.	444th Left wheel wouldn't retract.	94. Took off 0925 Landed 1015.
Perry, Pilot, 1st Lt. Meyer, Co. Pilot, 2nd Lt. Peterson, Bombardier, S/sgt. Wells, Engineer gunner, Cpl. Collins, Radio Gunner, T/sgt. Tucker, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.	444th	91. Took off 0925 15 Landed 1411 ³⁰
Fair, Pilot, 1st Lt. Stewart, Co. Pilot, Chouinard, Bombardier S/sgt. Babler, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Mikles, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. Honey, Aerial gunner, S/sgt. Cemay, Aerial photographer, Sgt. 443rd.	444th	90 Took off 0925 1/2 Landed 1414
Urner, Pilot, Captain, Casey, Co. Pilot, Miller, Bombardier, 1st Lt. Shyrock, Navigator 1st Lt. Vaughan, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Stoerkel, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. Monaghan, Aerial gunner, S/sgt. Stintzi, Deputy Flight Commander;	444th (Lead Ship)	83 Took off 0920 Landed 1409
Sund, Pilot, 1st Lt. Jackson, Co. Pilot, F/O Banicki, Bombardier, 2nd Lt. Alstat, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Cook, Radio Gunner, T/sgt. Aul, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.	444th	80 Took off -092615 Landed 1411
Peterson, Pilot, 1st Lt. Sullivan, Co. Pilot, F/O Morocco, Bombardier, S/sgt. Janise, Engineer gunner, T/sgt. Higgins, Radio Gunner, T/sgt. Keiffer, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.	444th	76 Took off 0926 45 Landed 1410
Goodson, Pilot, Captain Lumpkin, Co. Pilot, 2nd Lt. Strong, Bombardier, T/sgt. McDowell, Navigator, 2nd Lt. Porter, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Tucker, Radio Gunner, T/sgt.	444th	78 Took off 0927 Landed 1422
Hansen, Aerial gunner, S/sgt. Booth, Captain. Observer.		

NAMES OF THE CREWS	SQUADRON	PLANE NO.
Weir, Pilot, 1st Lt. McBride, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Robert, Bombardier, Sgt. Williams, Engineer gunner, Sgt. Patton, Radio Gunner, T/sgt. Petroski, Aerial gunner T/sgt.	444th	85 Took off 0927 1/2 Landed 1418
Green, Pilot, 1st Lt. Reeves, Co, Pilot, 1st Lt. Breeding, Bombardier, T/sgt. Dahishe, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Brown, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. Long, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.	444th	95 Took off, 09 27 45 Landed, 1355
Oggetti, Pilot, 1st Lt. Williams, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt.	444th 441st.	11 Took off No Take off Turret, out.
St. Arno, Pilot, F/O. Goodenough, Co, Pilot, F/O	441st	4 Took off 0928 1/2 Landed 1130
Parachute open in ship		
Wills, Pilot, 1st Lt. Dillon, Co, Pilot, F/O Blackford, Bombardier, Sgt. Christianson, Engineer gunner, T/sgt. Markus, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. Wurst, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.	441st	18 Took off 0928 45 Landed 1415
Hoy, Pilot, 1st Lt. Connell, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Goldberg, Bombardier, 2nd Lt. Konvalinka, Navigator, 2nd Lt. Juve, Engineer gunner, T/sgt. Kary, S/sgt. Radio Gunner, S/sgt. Dolan, Radio Gunner, S/sgt.	441st	14 Took off 0929 1/2 Landed 1350
Robbins, Pilot, N. B. 2nd Lt. Cornelius, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Berdaus, Bombardier, S/sgt. Lyons, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Tomlinson, Radio Gunner, T/sgt. Beckstead, Aerial gunner, Sgt.	441st	10 Took off 0930 1/2 Landed. 1348
Humbarger, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Bankford, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Scott, Bombardier, T/sgt. O'Dell Sgt. Engineer gunner, Sgt. DeMarco, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. Barker, Aerial gunner, T/sgt.	441st.	5 Took off 0930 1/2 Landed: 1340

valls, Pilot, 1st Lt.	441st	
Owens, Co. Pilot, 2nd Lt.		Took off 0930 45
Sylvester, Bombardier, 2nd Lt.		Landed 1340 ³⁰
Miller, Engineer Gunner, T/Sgt.		
Corona, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt.		
Herbert, Sgt. Aerial Gunner		
Crotty, Pilot, 1st Lt.	441st	6
	Crashed on takeoff.	
O'steen, Pilot, 2nd Lt.	441st	9
Held, Co. Pilot, 2nd Lt.		Took off 0931 15
Baker, Bombardier, 2nd Lt.		Landed 1010
Crass, Engineer Gunner, T/Sgt.		
Archer, Radio Gunner, T/Sgt.	Smoke in aft bomb bay	
Moore, Aerial Gunner, Sgt.		
Currie, Pilot, 1st Lt.	441st-	1
West, Co-pilot, F/O		Took off: No T.O.
Caudill, Pilot, F/O	443rd	65
Hirshay, Co-pilot, F/O		Took off: 0934
Wardsmith, Nav, 2nd Lt.		Landed at: 1420 ³⁰
Hobel, Bomb, 2nd Lt.		
Hildenbrand, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt.		
Griewank, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.		
Nelson, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt.		
Gilbert, Pilot, 2nd Lt.	443rd	56
Goodwin, Co-pilot, 2nd Lt.		Took off: 0934/15
Dufour, Nav Bomb, S/Sgt.		Landed at: 1421 ³⁰
Maier, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt.		
Cousins, Aerial Gunner, Cpl.		
Coons, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt.		
Space, Pilot, 1st Lt.	443rd	58
Balmer, Co-pilot, 2nd Lt.		Took off: 0934/30
Kimbro, Nav, Bomb, S/Sgt.		Landed at: 1408
Long, Radio Gunner, T/Sgt.		
Griffin, Aerial Gunner, Pfc.		
Jones, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt.		
Feagink, Pilot, 2nd Lt.	443rd	57
Strachan, Co-pilot, 2nd Lt.		Took off: 0934/45
Cafarella, Nav, 2nd Lt.		Landed at: 1415 ³⁰
Grant, Bomb, 1st Lt.		
Lillo, Radio Gunner, T/Sgt.		
Gamble, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.		
Noakes, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt.		
Calhoun, Pilot, 1st Lt.	443rd	61
Brown, Co-pilot, 2nd Lt.		Took off: 0935
Thompson, Nav Bomb, S/Sgt.		Landed at: 1416
Harpeter, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt.		
Burden, Aerial Gunner, Sgt.		
Smith, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt.	2nd Lt. Fields flew as Observer	

Davis, Pilot, 1st Lt.
Richaras, Co-pilot, F/O
Amundson, Bomb Nav, 1st Lt.
Dunn, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt.
Hogan, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt.
Covert, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.

442nd

25
Took off: 0932/15
Landed at: 1412³⁰

T/Sgt. flew as photographer

Ladd, Pilot, 1st Lt.
Tiemann, Co-pilot, 1st Lt.
Monroe, Bomb, 1st Lt.
Schwartz, Nav, 2nd Lt.
Stander, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt.
Hite, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt.
Griffin, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.

442nd

43
Took off: 0932/30
Landed at: 1413

Smith, Pilot, 1st Lt.
Klark, Co-pilot, 2nd Lt.
Furrer, Bomb Nav, S/Sgt.
Yule, Engineer Gunner, Sgt.
Strassburger, Radio Gunner, Cpl.
Buchanan, Aerial Gunner, T/Sgt.

442nd

28
Took off: 0932/45
Landed at: 1413³⁰

Bougher, Pilot, F/O
Rood, Co-pilot, 2nd Lt.
Montez, Bomb Nav, 2nd Lt.
Horne, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt.
Zehner, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt.
Turner, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.

442nd

47
Took off: 0933
Landed at: 1414

Baird, Pilot, 1st Lt.
Ingalls, Co-pilot, 1st Lt.
Payton, Bomb, 1st Lt.
Pincomb, Nav, 2nd Lt.
Gomez, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt.
Trupka, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt.
Baronet, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.

442nd

31
Took off: 0933/15
Landed at: 1419

Major Eladden flew as Observer

DeFan, Pilot, 1st Lt.
Larrabee, Co-pilot, 2nd Lt.
Jacobson, Bomb Nav, S/Sgt.
Goldberg, Engineer Gunner, Sgt.
Marschke, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt.
Buth, Aerial Gunner, Sgt.

442nd

27
Took off: 0933/30
Landed at: 1420¹⁵

Pvt. Williams flew as photographer

Baucum, Pilot, 1st Lt.
Rowan, Co-pilot, 2nd Lt.
Maggio, Bomb Nav, 2nd Lt.
Chamberlin, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt.
Dolan, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt.
Martins, Aerial Gunner, T/Sgt.

442nd

33
Took off: 0933/45
Landed at: 1420³⁰

Saylor, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Stroud, Co-pilot, F/O Salterelli, Nav Bomb, Cpl. Hansen, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt. Dross, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt. Pierce, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt.	443rd	67 Took off: 0935/15 Landed at: 1416 ³⁰
Butler, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Coleman, Co-pilot, F/O Chambers, Nav Bomb, S/Sgt. Skinner Saccardo, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt. Gniadek, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt. Waterman, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt.	443rd	62 Took off: 0935/30 Landed at: 1621 ³⁰
Barker, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Hunter, Co-pilot, 2nd Lt. Homsher, Nav Bomb, S/Sgt. Jackson, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt. Johnson, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt. Teeters, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt. Miller, Engineer Gunner, Cpl.	443rd	54 Took off: 0935/45 Landed at: 1416 ³⁰
Baker, Pilot, 1st Lt. Pearce, Co-pilot, F/O Quine, Nav Bomb, S/Sgt. Robichaus, Radio Gunner, T/Sgt. Butler, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt. Britton, Aerial Gunner, Sgt. Williams, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt.	443rd	59 Took off: 0936 Landed at: 1417 S/Sgt. Draper flew as photographer
Bracken, Pilot, 1st Lt. Nelson, Co-pilot, 2nd Lt. Handte, Nav, 2nd Lt. Carroll, Bomb, 1st Lt. Krumppoch, Radio Gunner, T/Sgt. Carr, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt. Key, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt.	443rd	66 Took off: 0928 Landed at: 1414 ³⁰
Speegle, Pilot, 1st Lt. Shuh, Co-pilot, 2nd Lt. Darby, Bomb, 2nd Lt. Leahy, Nav, 1st Lt. Peck, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt. Harper, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt. Galindo, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.	442nd	34 Took off: 0931/45 Landed at: 1418 ⁵⁰
James, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Hodges, Co-pilot, 2nd Lt. Andrewson, Bomb Nav, S/Sgt. Gloeckner, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt. Conlon, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt. Earl, Aerial Gunner, Sgt.	442nd	40 Took off: 0932 Landed at: 1421

Young, Pilot, 1st Lt.
Conrad, Co-pilot, 2nd Lt.
Stakes, Bomb Nav, S/Sgt.
Melin, Engineer Gunner, Pvt.
Hagemann, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt.
Stewart, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.

442nd

26
Took off: 0936/15
Landed at: 1410³⁰

Weather Recon ~~XXXX~~ Plane

Miller, Pilot, 1st Lt.
Morganstern, Co-pilot, 2nd Lt.
Malsbury, Nav, Captain
Folger, Engineer Gunner, Sgt.
Milliman, Radio Gunner, Sgt.
Edden, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.

442nd

44

Capt. Cleveland flew as weather observer